

# PRESS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

January 11, 2007

## Contact Person

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Assistant U.S. Attorney

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that James T. Kerns, 23, of Madison, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 37 months in prison, without the possibility of parole, for being a felon in possession of three firearms. Kerns pleaded guilty to this charge on November 3, 2006.

Kerns possessed one of the firearms on August 15, 2006, when he discharged it after getting in an argument near 2817 Curry Parkway, Madison. Kerns then took the firearm into his girlfriend's apartment and when police knocked on the door, she provided consent to search. In the apartment, officers recovered three handguns that belonged to Kerns, including a loaded .25 caliber pistol. Officers also recovered .25 caliber shell casings at the scene of the shooting.

The charge against Kerns was the result of an investigation conducted by the Madison Police Department. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rita M. Rumbelow.

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